Production of Lignite in Neyveli Lignite Corporation Mines

2478. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Lignite available in Mines I and II of the NIC during 1990-91;

(b) the target fixed and the production achieved in Mines I and II of the NLC during 1990-91;

(c) whether there is any shortfall in is production during the above period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to improve its production;

(e) whether the Unit-IV of the Thermal Station-II of the NLC has not so far been stabilised;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken being taken by the Government for its stabilisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The total reserves of lignite in Mines I and II, quantity mined and balance available are indicated below:

(in million tonnes)

	Mine-I	*Mine-II*
1) Estimated reserve	290.00	390.000
2) Quantity mined since inception upto 31-3-1991	127.32	16.838
3) Balance lignite available	162.68	373.162

(b) The figures of target and the actual production achieved are as follows:

(in million tonnes)

	Target	*Actual*
Mine-I	6.80	7.54
Mine-II	4.20	4.21
	11.00	11.75

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g). Unit-IV of NLC's TPS II was synchronised in March, 1991. However, owing to certain defects in the equipments supplied primarily in the lignite feeders to the boilers, full load could not be attained after starting the unit. The designers of the equipment have carried out certain modification in these feeders as a result of which full load have now been reached. However, there are still problems in running the feeders on a continuous basis and the concerned firms are trying to solve them. Inspite of these problems, however, the unit has achieved in its 7 months of operation a gross generation of 326 MU against CEA norms of 333 MU. The suppliers are on the job and it

is expected that full load sustained generation shall be achieved shortly.

Cotton Production

2479. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of long and short staple cotton during the last year separately and whether it was enough to meet the domestic requirement; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for increasing the production of short staple cotton during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) The estimated production of cotton during 1990-91 and 1989-90 was 97.6 and 114.2 lakh bales of 170 kgs. each, respectively. The staple-wise break-up figures of production of cotton during 1990-91 are yet to be received from some of the States. However, on an average, about 91.0% of production of long and medium and 9.0% of short staple cotton is produced in the country. There was no import of cotton by the Government. The current production along with the carry-over stock was enough to meet the domestic requirements.

(b) The Govarnment of India is implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) in important cotton growing States so as to increase the production of all types of cotton including short staple.

[*Translation*]

Procurement end Sale of Edible Oil by NDDB

2480. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will tha Minister of AGRICULTRE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Mustard and Ground nut oil procured by the NDDB during the last three years, year-wise?

(b) the rates at which the edible oils are being procured from growers by NDDB at present;

(c) whether NDDB has increased the prices of Dhara edible oil recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the profit earned by NDDB by sale of edible oils during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) During the two years 1989-90 and 1990-91, about 2.61 lakh tonnes of edible oils were procured by NDDB. Since edible oil is known to be e speculative commodity and NDDB has a responsibility as the Market Intervention Agency to maintain the wholesale prices at e reasonable level in the leen season, it is not considered expedient in the public interest to indicate the quantity of oilseeds and oils purchased by NDDB during the current fiscal year 1991-92.

(b) NDDB does not procure edible oil from growers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) With effect from 30th September, 1991, the price of refined groundnut oil 1 litre tetrabrik has been increased to Rs. 50, refined mustard oil one liter tetrabrik to Rs. 34, refined mustard oil 200 ML tetrabrik to Rs. 6.50 and double filtered mustard oil 500 ML tetrahedron to Rs. 15.

(e) Any surpluses accruing from market intervention operation ere credited by NDDB into the Merket Intervention Fund. Hence, there is no question of NDDB earning profit by sale of edible oil.